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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****21 MARCH 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) San Diego – Coast Guard Offloads 36,000 Pounds of Cocaine in California**

(U) Coast Guard crews yesterday morning worked to offload roughly \$500 million worth of cocaine weighing about 36,000 pounds that was recently seized during more than a dozen operations in the Eastern Pacific, according to authorities. The bulk of the cocaine represents what was seized by five Coast Guard cutters during 17 separate seizures between early February and early March off the coasts of Central and South America. All drugs seized by the five vessels were being offloaded yesterday by the crew of the Coast Guard cutter Bertholf at San Diego's B Street Pier.

SOURCE: 20 March 2018, [Patch](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Illinois – Orbitz Data Breach Affected 880,000 Payment Cards**

(U) Chicago – Orbitz disclosed yesterday a security breach that may have exposed data for thousands of customers, including, it said, information on 880,000 payment cards. The Expedia-owned travel website operator said the breach affected an older website and the platform of an unnamed business partner. The information attackers "likely accessed" included people's names, dates of birth, email addresses, street addresses, and genders, Orbitz said. The breach, which took place between October and December and involved records dating between 1 January 2016 and 22 December 2017, did not affect its current website, Orbitz.com, nor did it involve any Social Security numbers, Orbitz said. The company said it "has not found any evidence" that other customer information was affected, like travel itineraries or passports.

SOURCE: 20 March 2018, [Fortune](#)

**(U) Texas – Austin Bombing Suspect Blows Himself Up as SWAT Moves in**

(U) Round Rock – The suspect in the deadly string of bombings in Austin blew himself up earlier today as authorities closed in on him. Authorities identified the suspect only as a 24-year-old white man and said his motive remained a mystery, along with whether he acted alone in the five bombings in Texas' capital and suburban San Antonio. Authorities had zeroed in on the man in the last 24 to 36 hours and located his vehicle at a hotel on Interstate 35 in the suburb of Round Rock. Members of a SWAT team eventually approached his vehicle and the suspect ran into ditch after leaving the hotel, when the suspect then detonated an explosive device inside the vehicle. The suspect was identified as 24-year-old Mark Anthony Conditt, according to sources with direct involvement in the investigation.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [Associated Press](#), [CNN](#)

**(U) Texas – 49 Pounds of Date-Rape Drug from China Seized at Dallas Airport**

(U) Dallas – US Customs and Border Protection seized 49 pounds of date-rape drug disguised as ink last month at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, according to authorities. Officials attributed the 28 February seizure to a new technology that was in its first day of use at the airport: the Gemini Thermo

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Scientific Analyzer. The drug, gamma-Butyrolactone, was being shipped from China to Dallas. The drug is listed as a Schedule 1 controlled substance, meaning it has no medical use and has high potential for abuse.

SOURCE: 20 March 2018, [Dallas News](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Nigeria – Most of 110 Kidnapped Nigerian Schoolgirls Freed, Officials Say**

(U) Lagos – Most of the 110 schoolgirls kidnapped last month in Nigeria by the terrorist group Boko Haram have been released and returned to their hometown of Dapchi, according to a Nigerian minister. The release of the students was ongoing, and the number of freed girls would be updated after the remaining ones were documented. The students had been freed following “back channel efforts” by the government, and their release was unconditional. The mass kidnapping brought back memories of the 2014 Boko Haram abduction of nearly 300 girls from a separate school in Chibok, 170 miles southeast of Dapchi. More than 100 of them remain in captivity.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [CNN](#)

**(U) United Kingdom – Police Call on Public to Become ‘Counter-Terrorism Citizens’ to Stop Attacks**

(U) London – The new head of UK counter-terrorism policing has called on members of the public to become “counter-terrorism citizens” by passing on information that could help thwart attacks. Speaking almost a year after the Westminster attack, Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said more than a fifth of the 31,000 reports received last year resulted in useful intelligence. “People are nervous about police overreacting or about wasting our time, but it’s never a waste of our time,” he said.

SOURCE: 20 March 2018, [Independent](#)

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